

ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION



**US Army Corps
of Engineers** ®
San Francisco District

Project Map

BOLINAS LAGOON ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION MARIN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 6th District, Rep. Lynn Woolsey

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Bolinas Lagoon is a tidal embayment located 15 miles northwest of San Francisco on the coast of Marin County, California, between the towns of Stinson Beach and Bolinas. The lagoon is part of the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary managed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Sedimentation in the lagoon is causing a continuous loss of important subtidal and intertidal aquatic habitat, resulting in a reduction of the diversity and abundance of aquatic life. The goal of the environmental restoration effort is to restore intertidal and subtidal habitat and stop further loss of these habitats through restoring the tidal prism and improving circulation within the basin, while maintaining key mudflats, marsh vegetation, and other areas of biological importance. Although, over the long term, sediment deposition will continue to fill the lagoon, the restoration project is intended to significantly slow the present rate of intertidal and subtidal habitat loss.

FISCAL YEAR 03 BUDGET: \$200,000

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS: The current Feasibility Study considers five actions to restore lost habitat through increasing the tidal prism and improving circulation within the lagoon: 1) removal of the deltaic formation at the mouth of Pine Gulch Creek; 2) re-establishment of the north channel and its tributaries; 3) opening Seadrift Lagoon to unrestricted tidal exchange with Bolinas Lagoon; 4) removal of fill material on the east side of the Seadrift Spit; and 5) regarding the North Lagoon and East Channel restoration: a) removal of sediment in the northern portion of the lagoon; b) if needed, restoration of the channel along the east shore of the lagoon; and c) removal of portions of the deltaic formation between Kent Island and the East shore of the lagoon.

PRESENT STATUS: Corps Headquarters certified the Reconnaissance Study Phase on December 24, 1997. The Marin County Open Space District (Non-Federal sponsor) signed the Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreement (FCSA) in January 1998. The Feasibility Study is well underway.

FUTURE EFFORTS: Completion of the Feasibility Study and initiation of Preconstruction Engineering and Design (PED) are scheduled in FY 02. PED is scheduled for completion in September 2004. However, the funds currently budgeted for FY03 will not be sufficient to maintain this schedule.